

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**DATE:** August 25, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Reports of Significant Developments and Activities  
Ending on August 18, 2006

**FROM:** Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division

**TO:** Bharat Mathur  
Acting Regional Administrator

Norman R. Niedergang  
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, training/conferences, and stakeholder feedback:

**SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Removal Completion, Springfield Street VOC Plume Site, Riverside, Ohio**

On August 14, 2006, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) removal action at the Springfield Street VOC [volatile organic compound] Plume site in Riverside, Ohio, was completed. The time critical removal action was initiated on April 5, 2005, and included the removal of approximately 2,500 cubic yards of perchloroethylene (PCE) contaminated soil and the installation of 12 residential vapor abatement systems. The vapor abatement systems were designed to remove from the indoor air within residential structures the elevated levels of PCE caused by subsurface migration of PCE (vapor intrusion). The source area soil removal was possible due to extensive sampling work conducted by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) in 2005. The U.S. EPA worked with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Ohio Department of Health, Ohio EPA, Montgomery County Health Department, and City of Riverside to complete the removal action.

Contact: Steve Renninger (513-569-7539)

## **TRAINING/CONFERENCES**

### **Meetings, Department of Homeland Security Chemical Comprehensive Review, Chicago, Illinois**

On August 16-17, 2006, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Chemical Comprehensive Review meetings were held in Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of the meetings was to poll local, State, and Federal response organizations on a number of chemical response capabilities in their areas. Using a risk-based approach, the information would be assigned a numerical value, which would be combined with those of all the agencies participating in the review. A final value for each response area will be determined, a summary document created, and the results shared with the participants. Some of the areas evaluated included the personal status of responders (firefighters, police officers, hazardous materials team members, etc.), mutual aid agreement status, and relevant laws. A final report for the reviews, discussed below, should be available to U.S. EPA by the end of calendar year 2006.

A review meeting addressing suburban Cook County took place on August 16 with approximately 45 participants representing about 20 Chicago suburbs, along with State, County, and Federal agencies. Charles Gebien, Bill Bolen, and Glenn Cekus represented U.S. EPA in the meeting.

The second review meeting took place on August 17 and addressed issues in the City of Chicago. Approximately 30 participants representing the City of Chicago, State, and Federal Agencies attended. Leonard Zintak, Chris Christenson, and Glenn Cekus participated.

Contacts: Glenn Cekus (312-353-6449)  
Leonard Zintak (312-886-4246)  
Charles Gebien (312-353-7645)  
Chris Christenson (312-353-6303)  
Bill Bolen (312-353-6316)

## **STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK**

### **Letter of Appreciation (Jon Gulch), Eagle Picher Bankruptcy, U.S. Department of Justice**

Emergency Response Section 1 received a letter of appreciation for Jon Gulch from Elise Feldman, U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental and Natural Resources Division. It states: "Thank

you for your excellent work on the Eagle Picher Bankruptcy Matter. Your expertise in investigating the sites and developing remedial approaches and cost estimates was invaluable in our team effort to properly fund the custodial trust in this case. Your efforts resulted in savings of over \$5,000,000. Your ability to coordinate with the States to develop a unified approach was integral to our ability to reach favorable settlements. We particularly valued your willingness to work tirelessly, offering up evening and weekend hours to produce an excellent work product under intense time pressure-even producing an expert report in a matter of days and reviewing thousands of documents in preparation of your deposition and expert testimony. Your insights and expertise throughout the trial were invaluable in developing arguments and poking holes in the opposing testimony, and moreover, you were an excellent expert witness, standing up to difficult cross-examination and presenting the face of the United States with seriousness of purpose and scientific honesty. It was a pleasure working with you."

Contact: Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)  
Tom Dunne (OSWER)  
Barry Breen (OSWER)  
Ed Chu (OSWER)  
David Lopez (OSRTI)  
Ernie Watkins (OSRTI)  
Susan Bromm (OECA)  
Phyllis Harris (OECA)  
Mike Cook (OSRTI)  
Dana Tulis (OEM)  
Elizabeth Southerland (OSRTI)  
Larry Zaragoza (OSRTI)  
Debbie Dietrich (OEM)  
Dana Tulis (OEM)  
Craig Beasley (OEM)  
Jim Woolford (FFRRO)  
Region 5 State Superfund Coordinators  
Division/Office Directors  
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Regional Team Managers